

Message Text

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43

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 OPR-02 DRC-01 RSC-01 /017 W

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R 220920Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7425

UNCLAS TEHRAN 6032

FOR LEGAL ADVISOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: APER, CDES

SUBJ: ESTATE OF FSO RICHARD A COULTER

REF: TEHRAN 5505

1. SUBJ DIED IN AUTO ACCIDENT IRAN ON EMBASSY BUSINESS JULY 1 1974, SURVIVED BY IRANCIT WIFE AND TWO MINOR AMCIT CHILDREN. SUBJ BURIED TEHRAN. WIFE AND CHILDREN EXPECT TO RESIDE IRAN FORSEEABLE FUTURE. SUBJ LEFT NO RPT NO WILL, IN IRAN.

2. EMB PERSOFF HAS HANDLED BURIAL AND OTHER DETAILS.

3. HOWEVER, REVIEW OF SUBJECT'S EFFECTS INDICATES SUBJECT HAS TWO ASSETS WHICH MAY REQUIRE US PROBATE, NAMELY CHECKING ACCT #4-00-47-571 ARLINGTON TRUST CO, ARLINGTON, VA, AND SAVINGS ACCT #37867 STATE DEPT FED CREDIT UNION. BOTH ACCTS IN NAME DECEDENT ONLY, EACH BELIEVED LESS THAN \$1000. CREDIT UNION HAS ALREADY STATED EXECUTOR MUST BE APPOINTED, OR COURT ORDER OBTAINED BEFORE IT WILL MAKE PAYMENT TO WIFE OR FIDUCIARY. SIMILAR PROCEDURE BELIEVED NECESSARY FOR BANK.

4. BECAUSE SUBJECT'S PARENTS RESIDE CALIFORNIA, AND NO RELATIVES OR OTHERS KNOWN TO WIFE AVAILABLE WASHDC AREA, AND BECAUSE WIFE FACING SUBSTANTIAL ATTORNEY FEES FOR PROBATE THESE ASSETS, EMB REQUESTS ADVICE LEGAL ADVISOR HOW TO PROCEED. EMB AWARE DEPT NOT REQUIRED FURNISH SUCH ASSISTANCE, BUT BELIEVE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES NOTED HEREIN AND HUMANITARIAN CONCERN FOR BEWILDERED WIFE INDICATE UNCLASSIFIED

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SOME ACTION APPROPRIATE.

5. SPECIFICALLY, EMB REQUEST ADVICE WHETHER:

(A) SIMPLIFIED OR SMALL ESTATE PROCEDURE IS AVAILABLE DC OR VIRGINIA FOR EXPEDITIOUS PROBATE THESE ASSETS.

(B) IF SO, WHETHER LEGAL AFFAIRS WOULD BE WILLING ASSIST FRIEND OF SUBJECT IN WASHDC AREA RE HOW TO PROCEED.

(C) IF SIMPLIFIED PROBATE NOT AVAILABLE, WHETHER CREDIT UNION OR BANK, AFTER OBTAINING ADVICE COUNSEL, WOULD ACCEPT ANYTHING LESS THAN FULL PROBATE, DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP, ETC.

6. EMB EMPHASIZES ADVICE REQUESTED ONLY RE PROBATE OR RELEASE TWO ITEMS NOTED ABOVE. BELIEVE OTHER MATTERS CAN BE HANDLED BY WIFE FROM IRAN.

HELMS

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